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Message Text

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PAGE 01 NIAMEY 03567 241115Z

10
ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 AID-05 IGA-01 ORM-01 SR-02 EB-04 IO-04 SWF-01

AGR-05 PC-01 /075 W
---------- 104902
P 241054Z OCT 74
FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
TO SECSTATE WAHDC PRIORITY 9158
INFO AMEMBASY BAMAKO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIROITY
USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

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PARIS ALSO FOR AMBASSADOR HECK

USIA FOR IPS, VOA, IAA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SREF, NG, ML
SUBJECT: NIGER FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES MALIAN REFUGEES

REF: NIAMEY 3554

1. FOREIGN MINISTER DJERMAKOYE TOLD ME OCTOBER 23 AT EMD
OF MEETING ON OTHER SUBJECT, HE WAS SHOCKED TO LEARN THROUGH
VOA BROADCAST OF ACCUSATIONS MADE BY MALI DEFENSE MINISTER
DOUKARA ALLEGING NIGER REFUSES ALLOW MALIAN REFUGEES RETURN
HOME. HE SAID GON WAS EMBARRASSED BY ACCUSATIONS EVEN THOUGH
THEY WERE FALSE AS ANYONE COULD SEE WHO VISITED REFUGEE CAMPS.
NIGER HAD ACCEPTED REFUGEES IN THEIR TIME OF NEED AND HAD
ARRANGED FOR THEIR CARE. IT HAS NEVER BEEN INTENTION OF
CURRENT OR PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT TO PREVENT THEIR RETURN. FROM
BEGINNING GON ASSUMED WHEN THEY CAME INTO NIGER, THEY WOULD
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PAGE 02 NIAMEY 03567 241115Z

REMIAN ONLY TEMPORARILY. IF THEY ALL LEFT TOMORROW,

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THE GON WOULD BE DELIGHTED SINCE THEY ARE BURDEN. GON
CANNOT UNDERSTAND WHAT PROMPTED DOUKARA'S ACCUSATIONS
AND INTENDS SEND MINISTERIAL DELEGATION TO BAMAKO ON
SATURDAY TO CLARIFY SITUATION.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER THEN ASKED FOR TRANSCRIPT AND BACKGROUND
OF VOA BROADCAST. I REPLIED I UNDERSTOOD ITEM WAS BASED
ON INTERVIEW CONDUCTED BY HENRY KAMM AND PUBLISHED IN
NY TIMES OCT 21. DJERMAKOYE SAID WIDE DISSEMINATION
OF INTERVIEW BY VOA CERTAINLY WAS NOTHEHLPFUL IN
RESOLVING MATTER. HE CONCLUDED BY SAYING HE HOPED EMBASSY
NIAMEY DID NOT BELIEVE STORY THAT MALIANS BEING HELD NIGER
AGAINST THEIR WILL TO WHICH I REPLIED THAT FROM ALL EVIDENCE
WE HAD SEEN THIS DID NOT SEEM TO BE CASE. I PROMISED HIM
WE WOULD OBTAIN REQUESTED TEXTS. (SEPTEL).BUCHE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: REFUGEES, PUBLICATIONS, RADIO BROADCASTING, POLITICAL SITUATION
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Draft Date: 24 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
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